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A microcontrolled backlit keypad assembly and method for a gaming machine

(57) A keypad assembly and method for use with a gaming machine including a keypad having a plurality of keys to input data, and a plurality of illumination devices operably coupled to a corresponding key for independent illumination thereof. A microcontroller device is coupled to the plurality of illumination devices for illumination thereof in a manner visually communicating information relating to a game accessible by the gaming machine.

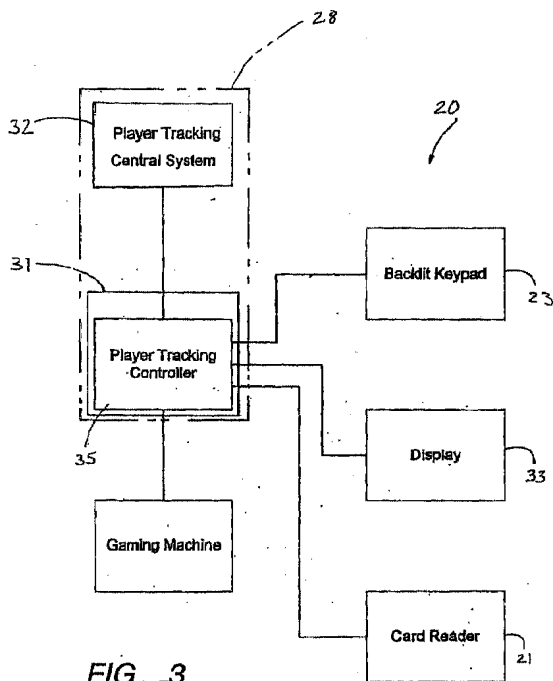


FIG. 3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 10 0279

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28 March 2002	Examiner Lindholm, A-M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04001)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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